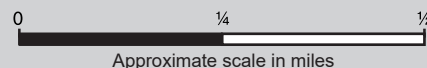


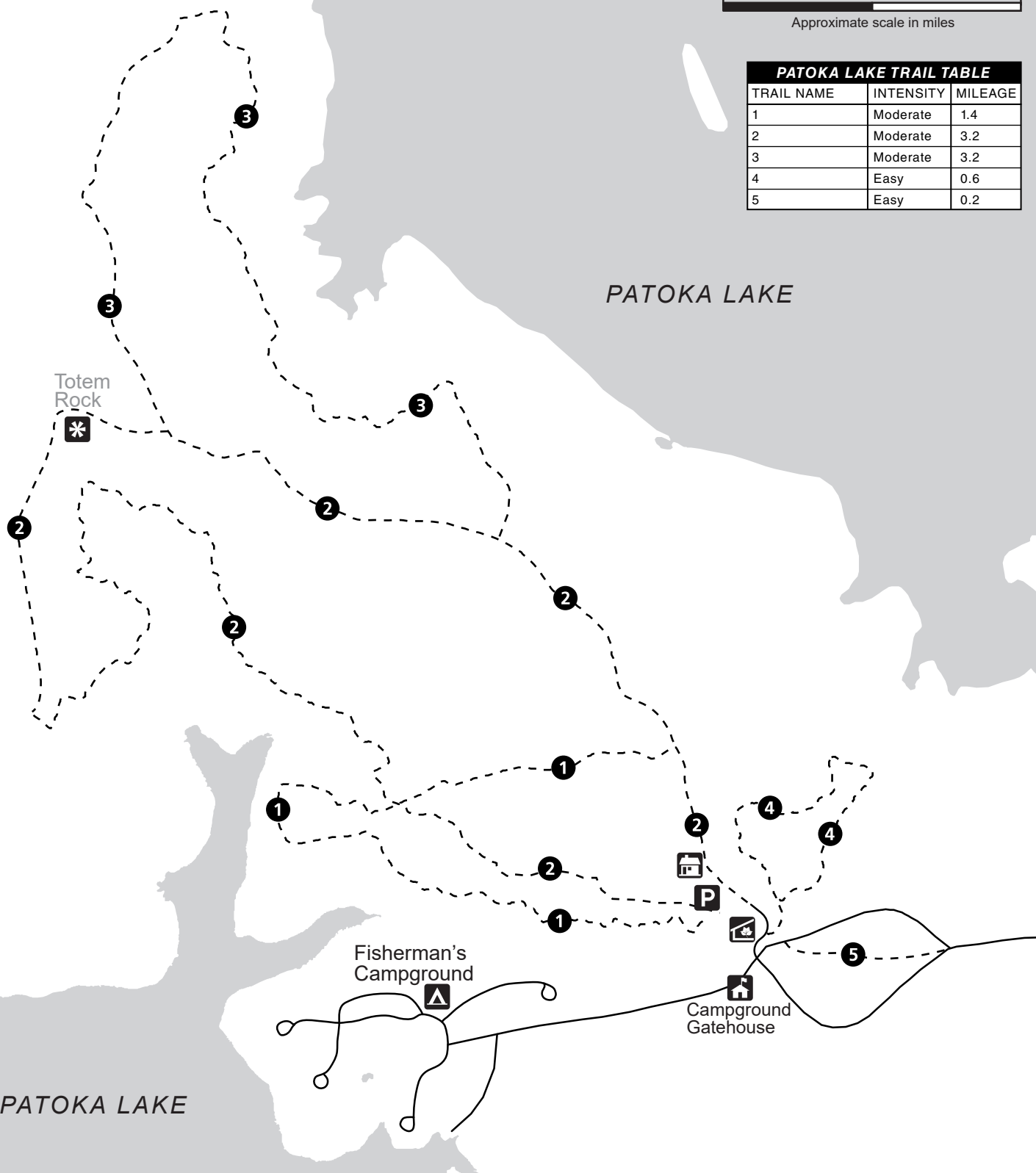
# PATOKA LAKE Hiking Area



| LEGEND |                   |  |               |
|--------|-------------------|--|---------------|
|        | Road              |  | Nature Center |
|        | Hiking Trail      |  | Parking       |
|        | Gatehouse         |  | Campground    |
|        | Point of Interest |  | Moery House   |



| PATOKA LAKE TRAIL TABLE |           |         |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|
| TRAIL NAME              | INTENSITY | MILEAGE |
| 1                       | Moderate  | 1.4     |
| 2                       | Moderate  | 3.2     |
| 3                       | Moderate  | 3.2     |
| 4                       | Easy      | 0.6     |
| 5                       | Easy      | 0.2     |



## NEED ASSISTANCE DURING YOUR STAY?

Please contact the park office, gatehouse or other DNR personnel.

**Park Office: 812-685-2464**

DNR Dispatch: 812-837-9536. Dial 911 for all emergencies.

## PARK OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Weekend & seasonal hours vary.

VISIT...

LANZAROTE  
*Caliente*.COM

## TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

| NAME & DESCRIPTION | MILES | DIFFICULTY |
|--------------------|-------|------------|
|--------------------|-------|------------|

|         |   |          |
|---------|---|----------|
| TRAIL 1 | 2 | Moderate |
|---------|---|----------|

Loop trail with a spur down to the lake. Rock outcroppings can be seen throughout this trail. Average hiking time is 1.5 hours. This trail starts at the Trailhead across from the Nature Center parking lot.

|         |     |          |
|---------|-----|----------|
| TRAIL 2 | 3.2 | Moderate |
|---------|-----|----------|

Trail 2 is 3.2 miles long. Totem Rock is found 1 mile into the trail. The rock received this name from 3 turtles traveling in one direction carved into the rocks and surrounding trees. The meaning of these marks was unclear but assumed to be some type of family mark signifying kinship, hence the name. European settlers also mined saltpeter, an ingredient in black powder from the site. This trail starts at the Trailhead across from the Nature Center parking lot.

|         |     |          |
|---------|-----|----------|
| TRAIL 3 | 3.2 | Moderate |
|---------|-----|----------|

Trail 3 is a 3.2 mile path that can be accessed by taking the back section of Trail 1 at the back of the Nature Center parking area. This trail follows the edge of the 1,000 acre peninsula that overlooks the lake from above.

|         |     |      |
|---------|-----|------|
| TRAIL 4 | .75 | Easy |
|---------|-----|------|

Trail 4 is a 3/4 mile moderate trek with Wickliffe sandstone outcroppings along the uphill portions. Walk through rock outcroppings and creek beds along this trail that takes an average of 30 - 45 minutes to hike.

|         |     |      |
|---------|-----|------|
| TRAIL 5 | .25 | Easy |
|---------|-----|------|

Trail 5 also known as The Narrows is a 1/4 mile trail on a historic wagon road. The wagon trail, abandoned in the 1800's, shows signatures in the sandstone rocks that give forth its name. Some signatures date as far back as 1864. Locals referred to this road as "the narries".

### PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

### Please let wild animals remain wild.

Feeding deer is prohibited. Feeding of wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.

## INTERPRETER-CONDUCTED WALKS

Join us for scheduled walks and hikes that may last 30 minutes to three hours. These walks are an enjoyable way to see the lake, learn about nature and history, and meet other people.

## HIKING OPPORTUNITIES

Walking is a great way to see the natural world. Wildflowers, the scent of pines, and the sound of birds are best seen and experienced away from roads.

A limited number of waypoints have been placed along the trail. Should you become unsure of your location, remember there is one main ridge with a few short spurs; walking uphill will eventually bring you to the ridge on which the Nature Center is located.

## THINGS TO LOOK FOR

- Den Trees: Beech and other trees provide homes and food for squirrels, woodpeckers, raccoons, and other animals.
- Eastern Red Cedars are common "pioneers" in abandoned fields and grow well in poor soils. Cedars also provide food and shelter for wildlife.
- Rock Shelters were used by American Indian hunting parties and later as livestock pens by settlers. Notice the animal burrows often found near the base.
- Wildlife Signs are abundant. Look for tracks, droppings, nests/dens and trails. Many animals are seldom seen because they come out only at night or are secretive.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



Write: Patoka Lake  
3084 North Dillard Rd  
Birdseye, IN 47513

Call: (812) 685-2464

Online: [on.IN.gov/patokalake](http://on.IN.gov/patokalake)



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!



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DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources

# PATOKA LAKE HIKING TRAILS



Patoka Lake's hiking area contains approximately 1,000 acres on a peninsula north of the Nature Center-Fisherman's Campground road. This area was set aside to provide visitors an opportunity to explore on foot a large roadless tract of southern Indiana uplands. Hikers can spend an hour or a day exploring mature beech-maple and oak-hickory forest, rock shelters and outcroppings, pine plantations, abandoned farm fields in various stages of plant succession, and panoramic views of the lake. Bird watchers will find the diverse area supports many native species, while the quiet hiker or photographer may stalk deer, small mammals or even coyotes.

Features of interest include access lanes and an overlook. Trails connect points of interest along the ridge top to the lake shore, and are rugged and steep in places.

For more info  
**stateparks.IN.gov**